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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/710,239 11/10/00 CHANG

R FG0219 US

EXAMINER

HM12/0709

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1653

DATE MAILED:

07/09/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/710,239

Applicant(s)

CHANG ET AL.

Examiner

Chih-Min Kam

Art Unit

1653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-74 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 1-74 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U. S. C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-21, 30, 42-74, drawn to a composition, an agent or a product comprising gelatin, classified in class 530, subclasses 354 and 350, for example.

Should group I be elected, applicant is required to select one (1) peptide sequence by SEQ ID NO: in claims 21 and 30. Each of the peptide sequences, absent factual data to the contrary, represents a distinct peptide.
 - II. Claims 22-27, drawn to a polynucleotide encoding the gelatin, an expression vector and a host cell, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1, and class 435, subclasses 320.1 and 325, for example.

Should group II be elected, applicant is required to select one of the nucleotides encoding a peptide sequence by SEQ ID NO: in claim 22. Each of the peptide sequences, absent factual data to the contrary, represents a distinct peptide.
 - III. Claim 28, drawn to a transgenic animal comprising the polynucleotide, classified in class 800, subclass 8+, for example.
 - IV. Claim 29, drawn to a transgenic plant comprising the polynucleotide, classified in class 800, subclass 295+, for example.
 - V. Claims 31-41, drawn to a method of producing recombinant gelatin comprising a step of providing recombinant collagen and a step of processing recombinant collagen, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1, for example.

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2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

The polynucleotide of Invention II is related to the protein of Invention I by virtue of encoding the same. The polynucleotide has utility for recombinant production of the protein in a host cell. However, the inventions are distinct because they are physically and functionally distinct chemical entities and the protein can be made by another and materially different process, such as by peptide synthesis or purification from the natural source.

The proteins of Invention I are distinct from the products of Inventions III-IV because the products from these groups are physically and functionally distinct chemical entities.

The methods of Invention V and the products of Invention I are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the protein can be made by another and materially different process, such as by peptide synthesis or purification from the natural source.

The products of Invention II are distinct from the products of Inventions III-IV because the products of these groups are physically and functionally distinct chemical entities.

The product of Invention II and the methods of Invention V are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the polynucleotide can be

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used for processes other than the production of the precursor of gelatin, such as nucleic acid hybridization assay.

The product of Invention III is distinct from the products of Inventions IV because they are physically and functionally distinct chemical entities.

The products of Inventions III and IV are distinct from the methods of Invention V because the products of Inventions III and IV can be neither made nor used by the methods of Invention V.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and recognized divergent subject matter, and because inventions I-V require different searches but are not co-extensive, examination of these distinct inventions would pose a serious burden on the examiner and therefore restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

A telephone call was made to Leanne Price on July 3, 2001 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Min Kam whose telephone number is (703) 308-9437. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low, Ph. D. can be reached on (703) 308-2923. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-0294 for regular communications and (703) 308-4227 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Chih-Min Kam, Ph. D.
Patent Examiner

June 29, 2001

Christopher S. F. Low
CHRISTOPHER S. F. LOW
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600